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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

Report from Vanceboro, Me.—Precautions taken on Canadian border to prevent importation of smallpox.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Young reports, January 1, as follows: During the week ended December 31, 1905, I inspected 18 passenger trains, 14 freight trains, carrying passengers; passed 938 passengers, vaccinated 25, and refused admission to 6.

From December 8 to December 23, 1905, I vaccinated 125 persons, refused admission to 16, held a Canadian Pacific work car containing 16 men under observation in New Brunswick until vaccination was successful, disinfected car and contents, then allowed entry.

Admission was refused in all cases because of suspected contact with smallpox at Tracy or Fredericton Junction, on line of Canadian Pacific Railroad between St. John and Vanceboro, or because of positive knowledge that proper disinfection had not been done in the houses from which they came and in which smallpox had occurred.

The present epidemic is especially dangerous because of its mild character in early stages, many persons concealing the disease so that in a large percentage of cases no disinfection has been done, and in many cases the health officials have no knowledge of its existence. Three times within 2 weeks persons with face and hands partially covered with scabs have appeared at Fredericton Junction from points in surrounding country, and of these 1 only had broken quarantine.

Report from Galveston, Tex.—History of yellow fever case.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Foster reports, December 30, as follows:

Relative to the case of yellow fever in this city, the patient left New York November 24, and arrived in Jacksonville, Fla., November 30; stayed there 8 days and then went to Habana, remaining a few hours in Tampa and in Key West, Fla.

He was in Habana 12 days and left on December 20, arriving here on the cattle ship *Titlis* on December 4, 1905. He was seasick on the

voyage and the exact date of his illness is a little uncertain, but it became very marked immediately after he had landed. He was taken to a house in this city where he remained 2 days and was moved to the John Sealy Hospital December 26. Doctor Graves, professor of medicine at the university here, made a diagnosis of yellow fever on the 27th, reported the facts to me and invited me to see him, which I did. The case presented all the typical symptoms of yellow fever, including black vomit, and died on the evening of December 28. The autopsy was held a few hours after death. Owing to the lateness of the hour they were unable to notify me and I was not present, but the findings were typical of yellow fever. The ship was refumigated and the rooms which the patient had occupied were disinfected. Doctor Trueheart, the health officer, informs me that a careful search for the last 2 months has failed to show the presence of any *Stegomyia fasciata* in this city, and any additional cases from this source can hardly be apprehended.

Report from Norfolk, Va.—Smallpox.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Blue reports, January 3, as follows: On the 2d instant a seaman suffering with smallpox was admitted to hospital. For the past 20 days the patient has been employed on the steamer *Hampton Roads*, which plies between Norfolk, Smithfield, and Old Point, Va.

The origin of the infection could well be in Norfolk, as there are a number of cases of the disease here and in Berkeley. At Craney Island, on which the hospital for contagious diseases of Norfolk is located, there are now 40 cases undergoing detention, and 5 or more are under quarantine at their homes in the city.

The health board believes that with general vaccination and fumigation of all infected premises the disease will soon be stamped out.

The entire crew of the steamship *Hampton Roads* have been vaccinated and the forecabin has been fumigated with sulphur.

STATISTICAL REPORTS OF STATES AND CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
YEARLY AND MONTHLY.

CALIFORNIA—*Stockton*.—Month of December, 1905. Estimated population, 20,000. Total number of deaths 27, including diphtheria 1, and 2 from tuberculosis.

CONNECTICUT—*Stamford*.—Month of December, 1905. Estimated population, 19,000. Total number of deaths not reported. No deaths from contagious diseases reported.

GEORGIA—*Columbus*.—Month of November, 1905. Estimated population, 20,764; white, 12,244; colored, 8,520. Total number of deaths 24; white 12, colored 12, including 2 from phthisis pulmonalis.